

MAR 1952

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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 INFORMATION FROM
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT Economic; Sociological - Planning, statistics

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952

HOW PUBLISHED Monthly periodical

DATE DIST. 31 Oct 1952

WHERE PUBLISHED Budapest

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE PUBLISHED Apr 1952

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Hungarian

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SOURCE Tobbtermeles, Vol VI, No 4, 1952.1952 PROGRAM OF CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

The following article sums up the full program of the Central Statistical Office for 1952 as outlined by the National Economic Council.

The program indicates a definite trend toward tighter supervision of Hungary's national economy and more intensive planning. Indirectly, it also points up some of the most acute economic and sociological problems, such as production costs, utilization of equipment, quality of products, the norm system, innovations, labor discipline and migration, incidence of sickness, unreliable reporting, etc.

Resolution No 651/1950 of the National Economic Council was, in general, executed satisfactorily by the Central Statistical Office during 1951. The Central Statistical Office included new projects in its program (census of independent farms, statistics relative to the reduction of production costs, investigation of the utilization of the most important materials, etc.) and intensified and extended its work. It also achieved good results in the strengthening of statistical discipline, documentation of statistical data, shortening of target dates, and the reduction of bureaucracy.

Along with favorable results, however, certain deficiencies may also be pointed out. The Central Statistical Office did not sufficiently execute the resolutions of the Council of Ministers and the National Economic Council concerning improvement of statistical work. Statistical work has not yet been decentralized in the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education, as well as in the field of investments.

The National Economic Council has outlined the statistical work of the Central Statistical Office and the ministries for 1952 as follows:

Extension and Intensification

a. The Central Statistical Office is required to prepare for 1951 a unified national balance sheet for manpower, production and distribution of products, fixed capital, and the income and expenditures of the population and the government.

- 1 -

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- b. The measurement of production costs must be extended to include the building industry and at least 60 percent of the manufacturing industry.
 - c. An index system for the measurement of the utilization of fixed capital is to be worked out.
 - d. The work of the Central Statistical Office is to be extended to investigate technical development, specifically, the introduction of new technology and mechanization, utilization of equipment, and the manufacture of new products.
 - e. Statistical methods are to be introduced to measure the quality of products.
 - f. Statistical methods also must be applied in the measurement of norms. First of all, the norms of the utilization of important materials and of machines are to be investigated.
 - g. Gathering of statistical data on work discipline is to be extended to include the entire national economy.
 - h. Manpower data must show the number of productive and nonproductive workers and employees separately with a view to curtailing bureaucracy.
 - i. Innovations are to be investigated statistically.
 - j. Statistical work performed by the ministries must devote more attention to technological data.
 - k. The Central Statistical Office, in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance, is required to organize the financial statistical work. This work is to include government receipts--taxes, first of all--and expenditures, currency circulation, credit extension, foreign exchange requirements, and the circulation velocity of working capital. In general, financial statistical work should be confined to the regrouping of available data and the preparation of index numbers by economic branches and social sectors.
 - l. The so-called "internal migration," that is, the migration of the population from megye to megye and to certain cities, is to be investigated statistically.
 - m. Investigation of price movements--especially on the free market and in the purchase of agricultural commodities subject to compulsory delivery--is to be extended.
 - n. Index numbers are to be worked out on the incidence of sickness.
2. The quality of statistical work is to be improved by the following methods:
- a. The so-called "permanent prices" of 1948, employed in planning and auditing, as well as the list of products, are to be revised.
 - b. The daily 5-day and 10-day reports currently used in the ministries, are to be unified.
 - c. The statistical area reports are to be systematized to show the plan fulfillment as well as the economic, social, and cultural indexes of each megye at least quarterly.
 - d. The record-keeping of the town councils is to be simplified.

- 2 -

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e. The ministries are to devote increased attention to the analysis of their statistical work. The ministerial statisticians are required to examine the results of the enterprises from the viewpoint of production, cost of production, consumption of materials, investments, etc. Outstanding results as well as deficiencies should be pointed out.

f. The statistical work of the ministries should be focused (1) on checking the consolidated data furnished by intermediary organs by data furnished by the enterprises and (2) on eliminating distortions. Documentation of all statistical data must be demanded.

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- 3 -

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